



Merry and Wife.

[Sold at No. 42, Long Lane.]

COME hither my dutiful son,
And take this good council by me,
All folly endeavour to shun,
So that you may prosperous be ;
Likewise in the course of your life,
And soon you to riches may rise,
There is a good name in this law,
For those that are merry and wise.

Choose not for a great many pence,
Amongst the fine gaudy and gay,
For a woman well finish'd in sense,
Is fifty times better than they ;
The one, with her insolent pride,
Will perhaps your good council despise,
The other will draw by your side,
It is good to be merry and wise.

You must both draw in one yoke,
One heart, one mind, one purse,
Each other ne'er strive to provoke,
Lest your blessing should turn to a curse ;
But if she consults for the best,
Pray don't her good council despise,
Then I will conclude with this,
It is good to be merry and wise.

I have been a good father to thee,
And so I will be to thy wife,
There's nothing in me shall be wanting
The longest day of my life ;
If thou wilt but mind what's amiss,
And not my good council despise,
Then I will conclude with this,
It is good to be merry and wise.

Dear honour'd father, he cries,
I thank you for all your advice,
I will make your good council my guide,
And fly from the follies of vice ;
Your precepts shall not be in vain,
In folly no longer I'll run,
I will labour and study to gain
The name of a dutiful son.

